

© 2000 Blackwell Science Ltd *Journal of Internal Medicine* 247: 101–107

THE VICTORY WHICH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN HAS WON OVER THE RABBI—OBJECTS OF THE CONVENTION AND TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED—PROGRAMME.

The Convention called by the National Council of Jewish Women, which opens in this city at the Tuxedo this evening at 8 o'clock, is another illustration of the adage, "A bad beginning makes a good ending," for the council had its inception in a rooming house. It was this way. When the learned rabbis assembled in Chicago in 1899 to plan their congress for the great Parliament of Religions at the World's Fair, they

didn't give the Jewish women a thought, much less say part in their programme. All the Christian bodies represented had proposed to have a conference of their own, and had helped them to arrange separate conferences. The Jewish women applied to their teachers for the same privileges. What did the rabbis do? They shrugged their shoulders and said no. The only reason for this was that the faculties of Jewish women had been reeducated in this land of liberty. With American independence the women then said: "We will do as we please, and we will declare our own congress." And they did.

One man at least was on their side. That was Dr. Emil G. Hirsch of Chicago. A committee was then formed, of which Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon of the same city was the permanent made Chairman. Next every Jewish community in the United States received a circular letter announcing that a Jewish Women's Congress would be held in New York City, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, beginning Sept. 1 and continuing four days. Delegates were appointed by the local synagogue committee in all leading cities to

...and arrangements for exhibiting the work of all the Jewish and non-Jewish institutions under the administration of the Jewish women. The response was enthusiastic. The traditional veil of Oriental seclusion was torn beyond repair; the coming Convention would demonstrate the fact that it can never again be even patched up. And so the Jewish women gathered at Chicago.

The congress was a success. The rabbis all stood amazed. Some were appalled—completely wronged over; others, the strictly orthodox, held stubbornly to their original views. A consolidation and unification of the forces and sentiments marking this congress was inevitable. And so the Jewish women marched through the streets of Chicago, and the congress into the National Council which was the first annual week with Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon, President; Mrs. Emanuel Mandel, Vice-President; Mrs. Harry J. Seltz, Treasurer;

Mrs. I. J. Wolf, Recording Secretary; Miss Amelia American, Corresponding Secretary. Its membership is growing steadily. It now counts 1,300 members, and its ranks are expected to increase again next year. The first of the past month's meetings were started thirteen sessions ago with about 1,300 members. To-day forty-one activities work under its banner and about 3,800 women have joined its ranks. The New York Council has furnished 548 of these. The Executive Council and Board sit in Chicago, and three standing committees—on religion, on Sabbath schools, and on philanthropy—prepare the programme of work for the year. The work in religion is that of study and listening to lectures or papers on subjects which require special preparation. This branch of the work has proved the real strength of the object of the movement. The rabbis who would not allow these women to be called upon to prepare at the Parliament of Religions were amazed at their forthrightly or modestly gathered

and lecture to them, teach them, and study with them. The rabbis not only do this, but they also open the doors of the synagogues to all who desire to join them to hold their council meetings in the vestibule. The rabbis, where they were, not many years ago, regarded the rabbi's hall as a place where the rabbi would go to sit behind a curtain to receive his pupils were thought to be too small to be allowed to witness certain portions of the services.

I know of only one rabbi who is opposed to the present "separate" membership of the New York "branch," and I don't know of any other. But we heard it rumored. Not knowing positively, we wouldn't dare to give his name. Since the birth of the National Council we have won over our rabbis throughout the whole country. Some are opposed to us most bitterly at the outset and some are opposed to us most hesitantly at the outset. But wait until the National Convention, and on every one can be seen for himself."

Three sessions will be held each day during

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The papers have been restricted to such a degree that even the members of the council," said Miss American. "It is the desire of all that the result of the Convention be made known to the community through the press, in order that the proper channel, in which the stream of thought and effort may run full and strong."

Members of the council of the New York City Council will deliver the address of welcome on the opening night of the Convention. They were announced as follows: Julius Bier, Vice-President of the New York City Council; William C. Cullen, President of the organization; Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon, President of the New York City Council; Mary Lowe Dickinson, Secretary of the New York City Council.

The members of the council will be expected to look after the comfort of the delegates have gone on the principle that too much of the best of the city should be made known to the delegates. They have arranged to give a reception to the delegates on the evening of the Convention at Jerry's restaurant after the delegates have arrived.

It will be a word of welcome just to make

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Protect the Wheelmen and Pedestrians.
THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SHIP: I was extremely
glad to see in today's Sun-SHIP that you take promi-
nent notice of the inadequacy of the punishment in-
flicted on Cabinet Ministers for reckless driving. The
Knoxville Police Court for modes driving on Eighth
avenue, running down the clerks, endangering the
safety of pedestrians resulting arrest, and assaulting
and kidnapping a woman, and the arrest of a young
couple of youths on a driver named M. Cartney.
I took did the same thing on the Boulevard, hurting
four wheelmen, breaking their bicycles, endanger-
ing pedestrians, and then forcibly assaulting and in-
juring a woman, and then kidnapping a young man
\$40; about the same punishment that would
be inflicted on him if at the moment of hilar-
ity, he had been driving the car as usual.
I am sure that you will not object to my en-
dorsing pedestrians as well as bicyclers, for a half
century ago the law was made for the protection
and safety of pedestrians, and it is only by the
and violent assault on the pedestrians as usual.
I am sure that you will not object to my en-
dorsing that would be improved on a passenger

...ask the District Attorney's office if it is
worth their dignity to take a civil case.
The I. A. W. does not take it up, then I see no